

# ANN LANDERS



## Congratulations!

Dear Ann Landers: I could kiss you for printing the letter from "Smartened Up Ex-Wife." She urged every divorced woman to keep hounding the rat until she gets the support money ordered by the court.

I'm a divorcee who raised four children. I've been in court so many times I could conduct the hearings myself. Some women who can't afford to hire a lawyer give up because they don't know their rights. Tell them again, Ann — they can get help from the district attorney. Every county has one. If the bum is in the military, she can go to the chaplain and find out what her legal rights are.

Major tips: Make sure the original divorce papers state the exact amount of payments, plus changes—such as an increase when the children reach high school age, or an increase if the bum should get a pay raise or strike oil in his backyard. And don't think it can't happen. It happened to me.—LUCKY LEE.

Dear Lucky: Congratulations—not on the divorce, on the oil, honey. It's nice to have something to pour on those troubled waters. Thanks for writing.

Dear Ann Landers: My 15-year-old granddaughter is unhappy at home. June must share a room with her 13-year-old sister. The poor child must help with the younger children, does part of the ironing, cooking and cleaning. I know she'd be happier here and I'd be delighted to have her. Her parents refuse to let her come.

I have a lovely home, two servants, and June could spend her time studying or doing whatever she wished. Would give her an easier life and introduce her to a better class of people. It would be wonderful for me, too, because I am lonely.

Will you speak for her—and for me?—J.L.

Dear J.L.: No. Your granddaughter belongs in her parents' home. Of course she wants to come! Any 15-year-old girl would rather loaf at her grandmother's than scrub, clean and iron and share a room with a younger sister.

Your "generous" offer sounds like poorly disguised selfishness. Lay off.

Dear Ann: I am a maid in a very well-known motel. A party of four people just left this room which looks like a cyclone hit it. They left three pennies on the dresser.

Why is it that the bartender gets a tip for mixing a drink, the waitress gets a tip for bringing food, if the engineer comes in with a new light bulb, he usually gets a quarter or 50 cents. The maid gets nothing. Yet she is the one who really does the dirty work. Is this fair?

You are a friend to the working people. Will you say a word for us?—PASSED UP.

Dear Passed Up: Happy to. A great many people travel today, and some of them don't know they should leave money for the maid. So—I'm telling them—here and now. Fifty cents a night for one person is about right. One dollar if there are two or more in the room. Anyone who can't afford this modest tip should stay home.

Ann Landers will be glad to help you with your problems. Send them to her in care of the Press-Herald, enclosing a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

# A Letter . . . To My Son

By Tom Rische  
High School Teacher and Youth Worker

Dear Bruce,  
Out with the old and in with the new? As each new year starts, that's the cry. It's one heard more frequently these days, since many young people think that adult ideas aren't relevant because of the rapidly changing times. "Don't trust anybody over 30!"

Over vacation, a former student told me that many adult ideas were outdated and irrelevant to the "now generation." Students, he said, shouldn't have to take courses they're not interested in, and school should return (several hundred years) to days when students paid their teachers if they felt what he said was worthwhile.

If I have any value as a parent and teacher, it's because I can teach some worthwhile things from the past—my own and other people's experiences. I can be a road map to new and (for you) uncharted regions. You'll go much further on life's road than I, just as I travelled further than my parents.

At the time I went to school, I didn't know whether the courses I took were worthwhile. Some courses that I hated later proved most useful; some things I most enjoyed had no lasting worth. So much new information is being presented at once, that, as one student said, "I need vacations just to sort out ideas."

Another ex-student last week told me, "Thanking for staying on my back and putting up with my goofing off in school. I thought I knew everything, but you were right about lots of things than I knew."

Looking backward in history, we can see that man today lives better and is more humane than at any other time in history. If that's not heaven, at least it's progress.

Each generation builds on the experiences of the previous one, and, as a wise man once observed, nations (and people) who forget their history are probably doomed to repeat it.

Yours for some old and some new,  
YOUR DAD



**SANTA'S HELPER** . . . Loyola University junior Marty Morris, son of Mr. and Mrs. William H. Morris of 3707 W. 182nd St., lends a hand in passing out gifts to underprivileged children from Los Angeles' Wesley Center. The youngsters attended a Christmas party sponsored by Alpha Delta Gamma, a Loyola fraternity, last Sunday. Festivities at the fraternity house included the distribution of gifts, singing of carols, and tree-trimming.

## Alpha Delta Gamma Hosts 18 Youngsters

The Alpha Delta Gamma fraternity house in Hermosa Beach was the scene of a Christmas party for underprivileged youngsters from Los Angeles' Wesley Center Sunday afternoon.

Thirty fraternity brothers and their dates hosted 18 children from the center, sang Christmas carols with them, trimmed a huge tree, and passed out Christmas presents.

Half of the presents were donated by Sears and Roebuck in Inglewood, according to Larry Abler, Alpha Delta Gamma president, while the rest were bought by the brothers.

Members of the Loyola fraternity attending from the Torrance area included Pat McClain — home on leave from the U.S. Air Force, Jim and Don Ruetz, Marty Morris, Tim O'Donnell, Jim Lea, Danny Williams, Walt Lack, Terry Flanagan, and Larry Abler.



**HOME AGAIN**—Chris D. Markham, a 1965 graduate of Torrance High School, is portraying Huckleberry Finn in a musical production of Mark Twain's "Tom Sawyer" at the Laurence Merrick Theatre in Hollywood. Chris recently returned from New York where he appeared in "Ten Acres," and wrote and directed his own off-Broadway play, "Aunt Mignon." He resides with his family in Palos Verdes Estates.

## Authorities Frown On 'Celebration'

Two Torrance residents, who told police they were "just out celebrating Christmas," were arrested late Christmas Eve for possession of dangerous drugs.

Jailed were Ronald L. Purcell, 19, of 16116 S. Van Ness Ave., and Veronica L. (Ronnie) Equitz, 26, of 16116 S. Van Ness Ave.

Police said the two were stopped for driving in "an erratic manner" near the intersection of Crenshaw Boulevard and 190th Place.

Some 27 double-scored white tablets resembling the restricted drug benzadrine were confiscated from Purcell. Miss Equitz told police the tablets belonged to her.

## Cat Fight May Have 'Saved Home'

A cat fight on Friday the 13th turned out to be good luck for the Frank Hunters, whose home at 2806 Onrado Ave. might have burned to the ground otherwise.

The action started about 9 p.m., when a neighborhood youth, Gary Decker, 15, of 2801 Sonoma Ave., went outside to break up a fight between his cat and a feline intruder.

It was then that he noticed smoke coming from the Hunters' roof. Gary ran to call the Fire Department while his dad, Lyle Decker, hopped the fence into the Hunter's yard to warn them. They doused the flames with a garden hose.

Cause of the fire may have been a spark from a neighborhood chimney.

## Suffocation, Hanging Mar Christmas Eve

Two 20-year-old youths apparently took their own lives in separate incidents Christmas Eve.

A neighbor discovered John Ernest Biluck, 4704 Del Amo Blvd., Apt. 3, inside his car in the carport with a garden hose running from the exhaust pipe to the window. Police said Biluck was still alive, but was pronounced dead on arrival at Little Company of Mary Hospital at 8 p.m.

A note in Biluck's pocket told of his suicide plans, police said.

The body of another youth, Sherman Lee Fenster, 1339 Cedar Ave., Long Beach, was found hanging by the neck from a chain hoist at Consolidated Missiles Co., 551 Van Ness Ave. The grim scene was discovered at 11:45 p.m. Christmas Day.

Police said the young security guard was holding the control box for the electric hoist in his left hand.

A company official said Fenster had been on the job one week. He added the youth seemed upset over home problems.

## Christmas Spells Death For Victim

A case of the flu may have hastened the death of a Palos Verdes Peninsula man.

Reported dead on arrival at Little Company of Mary Hospital was Gerald L. Richelson, 47, of 6910 Hartcrest Drive.

Richelson's wife, Laura, and son were taking him to the hospital at 6:45 a.m. Christmas Day when he slumped over. They said he had been suffering from the flu and had difficulty breathing. He also had a history of heart trouble.

## Holiday Donors Needed

Holidays are a joyous time for most people, but for chronically ill heart patients scheduled for surgery this holiday season, Christmas takes on a different meaning.

Some of these patients will have rare blood types and will be relying on Red Cross to locate, and deliver their blood to the hospital. Most heart surgery patients require at least 12 pints of blood for surgery and use of a heart-lung machine.

Recently, Red Cross conducted a one-year search that produced 20 pints of rare blood which had to be preserved by freezing for a Los Angeles youth who underwent open heart surgery at Childrens Hospital in September and is now enrolled as a high school sophomore. The blood he needed was found in Chicago; Madison, Wis.; Alfred, N. Dak.; San Clemente, San Jose, and Los Angeles.

"TO MEET the continuing need for all types of blood, Red Cross in Los Angeles must collect 880 units daily," according to Denver Bullock, Red Cross chairman for Southern Los Angeles communities.

"At this time of year, when people usually think about gift giving, we'd like to remind everyone that the greatest gift of all is the gift of life, blood," Bullock said.

In the area a Red Cross bloodmobile will visit the Red Cross Service Center, 1499 W. First St., San Pedro, tomorrow from 9 to 1:30 p.m. and 2 to 6:30 p.m. Another mobile will be stationed at the Church of Jesus Christ Stake Center, 4110 W. 226th St., Monday from 3 to 7:30 p.m.

A THIRD mobile will visit the Church of Jesus Christ Stake Center, 2000 W. Artesia Blvd., Monday, Dec. 30, from 3 to 7:30 p.m.

Appointments to donate at either mobile can be made by calling Red Cross at 831-0751 or 823-0343.

Red Cross has designated next Sunday as Save-A-Life Sunday, and will collect blood in Long Beach at the St. Anthony's Catholic High School Cafeteria, corner of 5th and Alamitos Streets, Long Beach, from 9 to 1:30 p.m.

## Count Marco

# You're Silly to Wait for Words

Does a woman who's been married nine years, has five children, a large home and a circle of devoted friends still have the right to moan, "My husband never tells me he loves me?"

For some strange and silly reason, it is always the American woman who feels so insecure she needs to be told every hour on the hour by her beast that he loves her.

Take this poor woman, who wrote:

"What's the use of going into all the details year by year. The thing is we've been married nine years, have five children and I'm sick."

"I receive nothing but praise from friends and his family about what a marvelous housekeeper I am and how well-be-

# . . . The Babson Report

(Continued from Page A-1) lessen the money rise from gusher rate to a more gentle flow, the floods of prior months will continue to seep through business and financial channels . . . at least during the early part of 1969.

Our staff here at Babson's Reports looks for "more of the same" during the first half of the year: Higher price tags, further wage raises in excess of productivity gains, continued pressure on costs all around, and the inexorable fattening of the tax burden — not alone from the perennial upswEEP of state and local levies, but also from the substantial step-rate in social security charges. Indeed inflation is still incubating. The virus is virulent. The antitoxin is known. But the political medics that will administer it have not yet come forth.

**Number One Problem** — Mr. Nixon knows that inflation is the one force that can destroy this nation — financially, morally, even militarily. He also knows that to move aggressively against it could plunge the U.S. into a depression. The latter state might be worse than the former. It seems likely, then, the incubus of perpetually climbing costs and prices.

Fortunately, the incoming President has the advantage of the anti-inflationary moves made in the late days of President Johnson's tenure. We expect that he will move cautiously to augment these. As a result, we look for no spectacular attack on the country's number one enemy in the opening days of Nixon's office. That means there will be further portents of inflation early next year . . . later in 1969 you can look for many signs of a topping off, even maybe some deflationary signals.

## STRONG START FOR DOLLAR

Unlike a year earlier — when the dollar was under world suspicion and attack — the "good ole buck" will start 1969 with a halo over it. The big bad wolf — President de Gaulle of France — who led an all-out offensive against the dollar in 1967 and early 1968 is now pretty "dead" insofar as any lethal threat to it in 1969 is concerned. His own franc had to have a good many blowout patches applied at the end of 1968 to keep it rolling.

It is not that the dollar has gained any real fundamental strength in recent months; rather it is that the pound and the franc got so weak that, by contrast, the dollar gained stature. Excellent co-operation with the U.S. by Germany has caused the deficit in our international payments to all but disappear.

Then, too, our nation did move toward fiscal restraint when it enacted the surtax. Finally, with the pound sick and the franc tottering, the other stable currency areas such as the German, Swiss, and Dutch just did not have sufficient size and room to accommodate all those financial refugees who might have been seeking shelter.

**Could Be Only Temporary** — But is too early yet to crow. Our dollar may still fall victim to a recurrence of the persistent weakness in our international payments position that has marked our relationship with the rest of the Free World for 90 per cent of the last two decades. Actually, the final-half 1968 strength in our balance of payments has not been the result of an improvement in our trade or payments position. Its good health then was more apparent than real . . . resulting from financial transactions, capital movements toward our shores — some of them flights from the currency ills of Europe, some for speculation in our stock markets, some "deals" between our Treasury and Germany to keep the mark from getting too strong and the dollar too weak.

Barring cataclysmic developments on the military front, the dollar should occasion us no great concern in 1969. However, the Babson prediction still stands . . . that the dollar may be living on probation, even on borrowed time, if the new Administration lets prices and costs run wild . . . or even if it cracks down too hard on inflation, touching off a recession. The things it must do: (1) Keep the federal budget close to balance; (2) persuade the money managers to maintain a moderate, not too stimulating increase in the money stock; (3) crack down on speculative excesses; (4) curb the underlying causes of our deficits in international payments . . . namely, faltering exports, soaring imports, non-competitive (with nations abroad) prices and costs (which are the faults of both business and management leaders).

The dollar is now in the "Eye" of a tremendous national and international inflationary hurricane. Its respite will be but temporary. To bring it through the "other side" in late 1969 or 1970 will be a Herculean task for the new Administration. Indeed, Mr. Nixon and his advisers will have to do a veritable "tightrope act" above the Scylla of inflation on the one side and the Charybdis of disinflation on the other. 1969 will witness the first scenes of the act.

## BUSINESS TO SCALE NEW PEAKS IN 1969

The momentum built by rising business volumes and production will surely carry the usual measurements of Gross National Product and the Federal Reserve Index of Production onto new all-time high ground in the year 1969. But that is not the whole story. What you want to know is what the rate of gain will be and what the shape of the year, businesswise, will look like.

**Gross National Product** — Total dollar value of all goods and services finished 1968 on a strong note . . . at nearly a \$20-billion gain. That is only slightly less than the best 1968 quarter of \$22 billion. Prospects now favor a good further boost in the first 1969 quarter . . . perhaps equivalent to the \$18-billion advance of the third 1968 stretch. The second quarter of next year may slip a bit from the first; but the upcoming half year will show a climb in dollar values perhaps only \$3-4 billion below the great bulge of a year earlier. Assuming no dropping of the surtax, we look for a lesser rate of gain in the final 1969 half . . . another big year, but tapering as it wears along. Over all, expect a GNP upthrust over 1968 of close to 7 per cent (about \$60 billion).

**Physical Volume** — Physical output is not expected to match the dollar value of increase in 1969 . . . not surprising, as more than half of the looked-for improvement will result from higher prices. Assuming the Federal Reserve Index of Production averages around 165 for 1968, we can project about a four-point climb in the year ahead. But profits in the first half of 1969 ment. Look for a strong start — plant utilization, business managers are projecting increased 1969 . . . not surprising, as more than half of the looked-for improvement will result from higher prices. Assuming the Federal Reserve Index of Production averages around 165 for 1968, we can project about a four-point climb in the year ahead. But again, we think the best will be seen early in 1969.

**Capital Outlays** — Despite a continuing depressed rate of plant utilization, business managers are projecting increased budgets for new plant and equipment. Look for a strong start — perhaps as high as an 8 per cent increase — to be followed by a slower rate of gain as the year ages. For all of 1969, a 4 per cent betterment would seem about the best to expect.

**Profits** — Total corporate profits in the first half of 1969 will out-distance those of the year-earlier period . . . they may even equal the strong final six months of 1968. Here again, however, squeezed by inflationary costs and somewhat less boisterous demand, we look for a downdrift in profitability before 1969 has advanced too far.

## MONEY TO STAY COSTLY

The first half of 1969 may experience some moderate easing in short-term interest rates. This will be occasioned by lessened federal demand for loans . . . as the budget moves from deficit to surplus and the Treasury has no need to borrow. Most of the easing, however, will show up in the Treasury 9-day bill rate. Long-term money may experience some temporary downjuggle . . . but over all Babson's Reports is not expecting any sustained slide off from the most costly decade of the century. Also, as Uncle Sam comes back into the bond market later in the year, rates should again stiffen.

**Mortgage Costs** — No real relief is in sight here. Availability and rate may be somewhat more favorable in the first half of 1969 than in the last. No incentive to postpone building or buying plans.

**Business Loans** — If the Treasury bill rate declines in the first half — as we expect — there will be much talk of lower costs for business loans. Here again, we feel that any easing will be tiny and temporary.

## ANOTHER HIGH IN COMMON STOCKS

The buy-stocks-to-protect-against-inflation "bug" has bitten deeply. Most investors are convinced that a stock-buying formula is the best antidote for soaring living costs. New common stock-oriented institutions are being formed "a mile a minute." Foreign investors are flocking back to U.S. securities markets. And corporate sales and earnings trends are supporting the convictions of the multiplying herds of bulls.

On pure momentum alone, we anticipate new all-time highs in the Dow Industrials, as well as in the more comprehensive averages, during the forepart of 1969. If such does occur, however, we shall have our "fingers crossed" about the course of stocks during the time after mid-year . . . especially if market "fireworks" become particularly brilliant in the early 1969 days. Under these circumstances, cautious selecting may pay bigger dividends in 1969 than "playing the field."

**Farm Equipment** — One group that has hardly gotten off the ground in 1968 has been the agricultural machinery makers. Some good long-range values exist here in issues such as Deere and International Harvester.

**Conglomerates** — The big multiple-activity companies have certainly failed to shine in the year now closing. Some issues may hold low risk for investors with patience. Among such are Tectron, Gulf Western Industries, and TRW Inc.

**Chemicals** — This one-favorite of securities fans has again passed a year in the market doldrums. Some indications of a turn-in-the-making are beginning to appear. We feel there is not too much risk in oldline concerns like Allied Chemical and Union Carbide at recent levels.

**Containers** — Another group that does not seem to have exhausted its investment potential is the containers . . . though they are not as cheap as they were a year ago. Our choice in this field would be Continental Can.

**Fertilizers** — After a long and painful stretch of being "put through the wringer," there are now some signs that moderately

(Continued on Page B-4)